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C

**CA**

**CONTEXT [Security]**

Acronym for certification authority

**cable plant**

All of an installation's passive communications elements (e.g., optical fibre, twisted pair, or coaxial cable, connectors, splices, etc.) between a transmitter and a receiver.

**cache**

A high speed memory or storage device used to reduce the effective time required to read data from or write data to a lower speed memory or device. *Read cache* holds data in anticipation that it will be requested by a client. *Write cache* holds data written by a client until it can be safely stored on more permanent storage media such as disk or tape. cf. buffer, disk cache, write back cache, write through cache

**canister**

**CONTEXT [Storage System]**

An enclosure for a single disk or tape. Canisters are usually designed to mount in shelves, which supply power, cooling, and I/O bus services to the devices. Canisters are used to minimize RF emissions and to simplify insertion and removal of devices in multi-device storage subsystems. cf. shelf

**carousel**

**CONTEXT [Data Recovery]**

A media handling robot in which the media are stored in and selected from a rotating wheel.

**carrier sense multiple access with collision detection**

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- packet priority.
2. The characteristics and guarantees of the transport layer of a Fibre Channel circuit. Fibre Channel classes of service include: connection services (Classes 1), guaranteed frame delivery with end to end flow control (Class 2), packetized frame datagrams (Class 3), quality of service sub-channels (e.g., constant sub rate or constant latency) (Class 4). Different classes of service may simultaneously exist in a fabric. The form and reliability of delivery in Class 3 circuits may vary with the topology. Different classes of service may simultaneously exist in a fabric.
  3. The identification and grouping of data packets based on a priority label (in the packet header) or via other mechanisms (such as "per hop behavior", defined by the IETF's Differentiated Services).

## **cleartext**

### **CONTEXT [Security]**

Alternative term for plaintext. Data in clear text implies that the data is not scrambled or rearranged, and the data is in its raw form.

## **CLI**

Acronym for command line interface.

## **client**

1. An intelligent device or system that requests services from other intelligent devices, systems, or appliances. cf. server
2. An asymmetric relationship with a second party (a server) in which the client initiates requests and the server responds to those requests.

## **client service request**

### **CONTEXT [Fibre Channel]**

A request issued by a client application to a well-known service. An example is a name service query.

## **cluster**

A collection of computers that are interconnected (typically at high-speeds) for the purpose of improving reliability, availability, serviceability and/or performance (via load balancing). Often, clustered computers have access to a common pool of storage, and run special software to coordinate the component computers' activities.

## **CMIP**

### **CONTEXT [Management] [Network]**

Acronym for Common Management Information Protocol.